



# News Release

## WISCONSIN ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Public Affairs Office  
2400 Wright Street  
Madison, WI 53704

Contact: Jackie Guthrie  
608-242-3053  
Cell: 608-212-1955

July 26, 2004

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### 32nd Military Police Company 'Welcome Home' celebration Wednesday

The Wisconsin National Guard's 32nd Military Police Company is returning to Madison Wednesday [July 28] after serving 16 months supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. National Guard officials are planning a "welcome home" celebration for the unit members and their families at 1:00 p.m., at Mallards Stadium in Warner Park on Madison's north side. The public is invited to attend.

Wisconsin's senior military officer, Maj. Gen. Al Wilkening, will lead officials participating in the celebration. The National Guard's 132nd Army Band will provide entertainment.

The unit's 150 members are completing demobilization processing at Fort McCoy this week and are expected to arrive in Madison Wednesday morning. Fellow law enforcement officers from the Madison Police Department will escort them to Warner Park. The Milwaukee- and Madison-based soldiers reported to active duty March 15, 2003 and deployed to Southwest Asia in May. During their 14 months in Iraq, the unit suffered more injuries from hostile action than any Wisconsin National Guard unit since World War II — earning 23 Purple Heart medals and 22 Bronze Stars. The 32nd Military Police Company is commanded by Capt. Scott Southworth.

Following redeployment of the 32nd MP Company, the Wisconsin Guard still has about 1,355 soldiers and airmen on active duty. Of those, approximately 320 are deployed overseas and more than 700 others are eventually bound for overseas missions. Another 800 Wisconsin Army National Guard soldiers are alerted for possible mobilization.

# # # #

**NOTE TO EDITORS AND NEWS DIRECTORS:** News media are welcome to cover this event at the Mallards stadium, Warner Park, 2920 N. Sherman Ave. (located on Madison's north side at the intersection of Sherman Ave and Northport Ave). News media can park in north lot.

The event, which is open to the general public, will begin at 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 28, and is expected to last about an hour. Expected participants include Maj. Gen. Al Wilkening, the adjutant general of Wisconsin, and Brig. Gen. Kerry Denson, commander of the Wisconsin Army National Guard. State and local officials have also been invited to participate.

Current National Guard News Releases available at: <http://dma.wi.gov/news.asp>